

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 IO-13 DHA-02
SS-15 NSC-05 OPR-02 USIE-00 L-03 INR-07 INRE-00
PRS-01 CIAE-00 EURE-00 /071 W
-----121519 121447Z /46

O R 121349Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO AMEMBASSY BANGUI IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7047
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 PARIS 23490

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, CT, UK, US
SUBJECT: DETENTION OF WESTERN JOURNALIST

SUMMARY: GOLDSMITH'S WIFE SENT A CABLE AUGUST 11 TO
CAE EMPEROR BOKASSA ASKING FOR HIS RELEASE ON HUMANI-
TARIAN GROUNDS. BOKASSA REPLIED AUGUST 11 THAT RELEASE
COULD TAKE PLACE ONLY UNDER TWO CONDITIONS: A. GOLD-
SMITH ANSWERS QUESTIONS BEFORE THE MILITARY TRIBUNAL
CONCERNING ESPIONAGE DOCUMENTS AND B. THE USG AND THE
GCAE SIGN AN AGREEMENT IN WHICH THE TWO PEOPLES AGREE
NOT TO ENGAGE IN ESPIONAGE AGAINST EACH OTHER. MRS.
GOLDSMITH (AGAIN WITH ASSISTANCE OF CAE CHARGE HERE) IS
SENDING ANOTHER CABLE IN THE HOPES OF EXPEDITING THE
TRIAL. (WE SHALL SEND TEXT WHEN MRS. GOLDSMITH HAS
PREPARED IT.) UK EMBASSY INFORMS US THAT UK AMBASSADOR
IN ABIDJAN HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO SEEK INTERVIEW WITH
CAE PRIME MINISTER TO MAKE FURTHER REPRESENTATIONS FOR
RELEASE OF GOLDSMITH. END SUMMARY.

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1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A CABLE SENT AUGUST 11
BY MRS. GOLDSMITH TO EMPEROR BOKASSA. SHE WAS ASSISTED
IN PREPARING THE TEXT BY THE CAE CHARGE IN PARIS WHO
KNOWS BOKASSA AND TRIED TO PHRASE IT IN SUCH A WAY AS
TO BE MOST EFFECTIVE WITH THE EMPEROR.

BEGIN TEXT.

TRES URGENT, S'IL VOUS PLAIT

A SA MAJESTE BOKASSA IER
EMPEREUR DE CENTRAFRIQUE

SIRE VOTRE MAJESTE,

JE ME SUIS PERMISE DE VOUS ADRESSER CE MESSAGE
PERSONNELLEMENT POUR VOUS FAIRE PART DE L'ANXIETE
FAMILIALE SUITE A LA NOUVELLE CONCERNANT MON MARI,
MICHAEL GOLDSMITH, ANXIETE QUI A CAUSE A MA BELLE MERE
UNE ATTAQUE CARDIAQUE DU POINT DE LIMITER SA VIE A UN
SURSIS EXTREMEMENT COURT DE L'AVIS DE SON MEDECIN, LE
DOCTEUR THOMAS KRAMER, 276 CRICKLEWOOD LANE, LONDRES.

QUELQUE SOIT LA FAUTE QU'AURAIT COMMISE MON MARI, ET EN
RAISON DE SA DETENTION DURANT UN MOIS POUR EXPIER SON
TORT, J'IMPLORE DE VOTRE MAJESTE UN GESTE IMPERIAL A
CAUSE DE MA BELLE MERE.

MAJESTE, NOUS SAVONS QUE SI VOUS ETES INTRANSIGEANT
SUR LES PRINCIPES, VOUS ETES EGALEMENT PROMPT AU
PARDON, ET D'EST LA UNE DES VERTUS SEIGNEURIALES AU NOM
DE LAQUELLE J'ESPERE QUE MA PRESENTE DEMARCHE SERA
PRISE EN CONSIDERATION. NOUS SAVONS COMBIEN VOUS
RESPECTEZ LES MAMANS ET AUCUNE DEMARCHE OFFICIELLE NE
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PEUT REMPLACER LE LANGAGE DU COEUR.

IL EST VRAI QUE MON EPOUX EST NE A VIENNE (AUTRICHE) ET
QU'IL EST, ET A TOUJOURS ETE, SUJET DE SA MAJESTE LA
REINE D'ANGLETERRE, ET DE CE COTE, JE SUIS EN MESURE DE
FOURNIR DES PREUVES SI VOTRE MAJESTE LE DESIRAIT.

SIRE, LORSQUE VOUS M'ACCORDEREZ LA GRACE QUE JE VOUS
DEMANDE, JE SERAI PERSUADEE QUE LA PRESSE SERA OBLIGEE
DE PUBLIER QUE VOUS AVEZ PERMIS AU FILS D'ALLER VOIR SA
MERE MOURANTE (DONT L'ANNIVERSAIRE SERA LE 24 AOUT),
ET L'OPINION MONDIALE Y VERRA LA UNE PREUVE DE LA

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RECONNAISSANTE DE BIEN VOULOIR APAISER NOS ANGOISSES.
ESPERE AU NOM DE LA COURONNE IMPERIALE RECEVOIR LES
ASSURANCES DONT NOUS AVONS TANT BESOIN, ET QUI NE
PEUVENT NOUS VENIR QUE D'UN PETIT GESTE MAGNANIME DE
VOTRE PART.

VEUILLEZ AGREER, MAJESTE, L'ASSURANCE DE MA TRES
HAUTE ET PROFONDE CONSIDERATION.

MME. R. GOLDSMITH
END TEXT.

2. THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE REPLY EMPEROR
BOKASSA SENT, ALSO ON AUGUST 11.

BEGIN TEXT.
COUR IMPERIALE DE BERENGO
A MADAME ROXAME GOLDSMITH
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MADAME,
NOUS AVONS TRES BIEN RECU VOTRE MESSAGE MAIS NOUS
SOMMES TENU DE VOUS ACCUSER COMME COMPLICE DE MONSIEUR
GOLDSMITH ESPION NO 1 AU SERVICE DES ETATS UNIS
D'AMERIQUE.

L'ODIEUX ATTENTAT PERPETRE CONTRE NOTRE PERSONNE LE 3
FEVRIER 1976 A L'AEROPORT BANGUI MPOKO GUIDE PAR LES
ETATS UNIS EST UNE PREUVE DE PLUS VERSEE AU DOSSIER
DE MONSIEUR GOLDSMITH.

C'EST POURQUOI SI DIEU QUI EST LE CHEF SUPREME ET LE
MAITRE DE L'UNIVERS A INTERDIT AUX BLANCS DE MOURIR EN
IMPOSANT LA MORT AUX SEULS NOIRS NOUS VOUS DEMANDERONS
SIMPLEMENT DE LUI FAIRE APPEL DIRECTEMENT POUR LA
LIBERATION DE MONSIEUR GOLDSMITH.

TOUTEFOIS CETTE LIBERATION NE PEUT AVOIR LIEU QUE SOUS
DEUX CONDITIONS:

1/ MONSIEUR GOLDSMITH REPONDRA AUX QUESTIONS QUI LUI
SERONT POSEES PAR LE TRIBUNAL MILITAIRE PERMANENT DE
L'EMPIRE CENTRAFRICAIN SUR LES DOCUMENTS D'ESPIONNAGE
DONT IL A ETE LE POSSESSEUR.
2/ APRES LE JUGEMENT RENDU PAR LE TRIBUNAL MILITAIRE
PERMANENT DE L'EMPIRE CENTRAFRICAIN IL SERA DEMANDE AU
GOUVERNEMENT AMERICAIN UN ACCORD ECRIT ET DUMENT SIGNE
ENTRE LE GOUVERNEMENT DES ETATS UNIS ET LE GOUVERNE-
MENT DE L'EMPIRE CENTRAFRICAIN AUX TERMES DUQUEL LES
DEUX PEUPLES AMERICAIN ET CENTRAFRICAIN S'ENGAGENT
A INTERDIRE D'ENTREPRENDRE TOUTE ACTION D'ESPIONNAGE, DE
CONTRE ESPIONNAGE ET D'ATTEINTE A LA SURETE INTERIEURE
ET EXTERIEURE DE CHACUN DES ETATS CONCERNES.
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VOILA CHERE MADAME GOLDSMITH LES CONDITIONS QUI SONT
MISES EN PLACE ET DECIDEES PAR NOUS EN TANT QU'ETAT
DE L'EMPIRE CENTRAFRICAIN DONC ETAT SOUVERAIN.

PAR AILLEURS NOUS TENONS A VOUS FAIRE REMARQUET QU'AUCUN
RESSORTISSANT DE L'EMPIRE CENTRAFRICAIN N'A JAMAIS
COMMIS LE MOINDRE ACTE IDENTIQUE A CELUI DE MONSIEUR
GOLDSMITH VOTRE MARI, NI CONTRE LES DIRIGEANTS
AMERICAINS, LES AUTORITES AMERICAINES, NI CONTRE LE
PEUPLE AMERICAIN.
NOUS CONNAISSONS LA SEGREGATION RECIALE ET LE RACISME
QUI PREVALENT AUX ETATS UNIS.

C'EST POURQUOI, NOUS PENSONS QUE DE TELS ACTES NE
PEUVENT AVOIR COURS QU'AUX ETATS UNIS MEME ET NON
AILLEURS.

NOUS VOUS PRESENTONS NOS HOMMAGES ET NOS RESPECTS

SA MAJESTE IMPERIALE BOKASSA 1ER
EMPEREUR DE CENTRAFRIQUE

3. MRS. GOLDSMITH SAID THAT SHE HAD BEEN TOLD BY THE CAE CHARGE NOT TO BE TOO DISTRESSED IF SHE GOT A TOUGH REPLY SINCE IT WAS ALSO A THERAPEUTIC WAY FOR BOKASSA TO LET OFF STEAM. SHE THINKS THAT THE RAPIDITY OF THE REPLY MEANS THAT THE SENSE OF URGENCY CAUSED BY THE APPROACHING DEATH OF GOLDSMITH'S MOTHER HAS BEEN UNDERSTOOD BY BOKASSA. SHE ALSO THINKS IT LIKELY THAT THE TWO CONDITIONS ARE DESIGNED FOR FACE SAVING, AND BOKASSA MAY NOT REQUIRE GREAT FORMALITY OR STRICTNESS

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O R 121349Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
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IN THEIR FULFILLMENT. SHE IS AWARE OF THE PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH THE SECOND CONDITION, AND ALSO THINKS THAT IF BOKASSA INSISTS ON GOLDSMITH'S CONFESSING HE HAS BEEN CONNECTED WITH THE CIA HE WILL PREFER TO REMAIN IN DETENTION. SHE WILL SEND A REPLY WHICH SHE WILL ALSO WORK OUT WITH THE CAE CHARGE HERE, WHO HAS BEEN VERY HELPFUL THROUGHOUT. THE CHARGE THOUGHT THAT SHE COULD ACQUIT HERSELF OF PERSONAL RACISM BY REFERENCE TO HER BEING A NEICE OF THE LATE PRESIDENT JOHNSON AND TO HER OWN CAREER. SHE SAYS THAT AS SOON AS SHE WORKS OUT A REPLY, SHE WILL SHOW IT TO US.

4. MRS. GOLDSMITH SAID THAT OTHER PRESSURES ARE BEING BROUGHT TO BEAR. HOUPHOUET BOIGNY IS EXPECTED TO RAISE THE MATTER WITH THE CAE PRIME MINISTER DIRECTLY, AND OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES WILL BE SENDING MESSAGES TO THE CAE. IN ADDITION, AP AND OTHER GOLDSMITH FRIENDS IN ROME ARE REQUESTING THE CONFIDENTIAL

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POPE TO MAKE AN APPEAL TO BOKASSA; MRS. GOLDSMITH THOUGHT THAT THE APPEAL TO GOD WHICH BOKASSA ADVISED MIGHT SEEM TO BE ANSWERED IF A PAPAL MESSAGE REACHES BOKASSA SOON.

5. THE UK EMBASSY HERE PROVIDED US WITH A COPY OF A CABLE SENT TO ABIDJAN INSTRUCTING THE AMBASSADOR THERE TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE CAE PRIME MINISTER, NOW IN ABIDJAN, TO CONVEY A SEVEN POINT APPROACH ENDING WITH A CALL FOR THE RELEASE OF GOLDSMITH ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS. AT OUR SUGGESTION, UK EMBASSY HERE WILL SUGGEST THAT UK EMBASSY IN ABIDJAN TELL US EMBASSY THERE OF THE RESULTS OF THE DEMARCHE SO THAT USG INCLUDING EMBASSY BANGUI MAY BE INFORMED. (UK EMBASSIES PARIS, WASHINGTON AND YAOUNDE WERE INFORMATION ADDRESSEES FOR THE INSTRUCTION.)
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: PINS, CT, UK, US
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